

19, 2018 in Branson, Missouri. Tia Coleman was one of only two survivors from her family of 11, losing her husband Glenn and her children Reece (nine years old), Evan (seven years old), and Arya (one year old). Tia's 13 year old nephew, Donovan Coleman, was the other surviving family member, losing his mother Angela, his younger brother Maxwell (two years old), his uncles Ervin (76 years old) and Butch (70 years old), and his aunt Belinda (69 years old). Boarding a duck boat on Table Rock Lake started out as a fun outing for family members but turned into an unspeakable tragedy when the boat capsized and sank. Seventeen of the 31 passengers on board were killed.

Investigations by state and federal authorities are still underway and lawsuits are pending over the specifics of this incident. But there is a long record of problems associated with duck boat operations that can be addressed now. Since 1999 more than 40 people have died in duck boats accidents, the vast majority of them from drowning when the vessel sinks. In 2002, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued recommendations to improve the safety of the vessels in cases of flooding or sinking, but little has been done to implement those measures. We know from these past incidents that more can be done to make these vessels safe. Congress does not need to wait to act.

While we wait to learn more about the specific circumstances and causes that led to the tragedy on Table Rock Lake, this legislation would implement the NTSB's past recommendations to improve the ability of duck boats (officially referred to as "amphibious passenger vessels") to stay afloat in a flooding or sinking situation.

Specifically, this bill would direct the Coast Guard to issue regulations within 180 days to require operators of amphibious passenger vessels to retrofit their vessels to provide reserve buoyancy. Vessel operators would have no longer than two years to comply with the requirements.

While vessel operators work to comply with the reserve buoyancy requirements, this bill directs them to implement interim measures to improve vessel safety, including:

- a. Remove canopies from vessels for waterborne operations, or replacing canopies with structures that do not restrict escape in the event of flooding or sinking;
- b. If canopies are removed, require that all passengers wear a personal flotation device while the vessel is on the water;
- c. Permanently close all unnecessary access plugs and reduce through-hull penetrations to the minimum number and size necessary;
- d. Install independently-powered electric bilge pumps;
- e. Install not fewer than four independently-powered bilge alarms;
- f. Mandate inspection of vessels in water after each through-hull penetration;
- g. Verify watertight integrity of vessels in the water at the outset of each waterborne departure; and
- h. Otherwise comply with existing Coast Guard regulations related to the inspection, configuration, and operation of such vessels.

Those vessels that do not meet the 180-day deadline to implement interim safety measures, as well as those that do not meet the two-year deadline to install reserve buoyancy

systems, would be prohibited from operating on U.S. waterways until they are in compliance.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill to make common-sense corrections to the persistent safety problems facing duck boats so that no other family must face the kind of tragedy faced by my constituents on Table Rock Lake. I want to thank my colleague, Senator MCCASKILL, for introducing the companion measure, S. 3301, and I urge the House to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF GENEVIEVE SHIROMA

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Genevieve Shiroma as she retires from her post as Board Member of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Shiroma for her leadership and commitment to the residents of Ward 4 and all of California.

Elected to the SMUD Board in November 1998, Ms. Shiroma has served the many residents in her region, Ward 4. During her tenure, she has been elected as president of the Board four times, indicating the impressive work she has accomplished since her first election.

Since graduating from University of California, Davis with a bachelor's degree in Material Science and Engineering, Ms. Shiroma has achieved an illustrious career in local and state government and has long been an advocate for policies benefiting all Californians. With over two decades of experience at the California Air Resources Board, Ms. Shiroma has excelled in her field and has been an important leader in improving air quality programs and regulations, which has undoubtedly improved the health and well being of Californians. In addition to her work with the State and the SMUD Board, Ms. Shiroma has also been serving on the Agricultural Labor Relations Board for the State of California since 1999.

Ms. Shiroma is also a civic leader in our region, lending her time to numerous non-profit organizations. She has served on the Boards of the Sierra-Curtis Neighborhood Association, United Way California Capital Region, B Street Theatre, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, and the Friends Committee for My Sister's House. Ms. Shiroma is also a Senior Fellow with the American Leadership Forum Mountain Valley Chapter.

Mr. Speaker, as family, friends and fellow SMUD Board Members join to celebrate Ms. Shiroma's successful and impactful career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring her exemplary leadership and contribution to our community.

HONORING DALE BUWALDA

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a longtime member of my staff, Dale Buwalda, for his work in my office and his service to our state.

Dale has been on our team for nearly four years now, serving as our Field Director in Indiana. Over the years, he has represented our office at hundreds of events around Indiana, helped organize and plan the Muncie and Lawrenceburg job fairs, and has helped numerous individuals navigate the federal bureaucracy and receive the help they need.

On a personal note, I've known Dale for almost twenty years. He is one of my favorite people in Indiana politics. I admire Dale's loyalty, intellect, and positive spirit. Dale is the kind of leader who strengthens any team.

I want to thank Dale for his friendship and his hard work in our office. I wish him continued success in all that God has planned for Dale and his family.

RECOGNIZING ELECTION WINNERS

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the following local winners of this November's elections for positions covering all or part of the Fifteenth Congressional District of California, which I have the honor of representing. I look forward to working with them on behalf of the East Bay over the coming years.

State Senate, 10th District: Bob Wieckowski
 State Assembly, 16th District: Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
 State Assembly, 20th District: Bill Quirk
 Alameda County Assessor: Phong La
 Pleasanton Mayor: Jerry Thorne
 Pleasanton City Council: Kathy Narum, Julie Testa
 Dublin Mayor: David Gregory Haubert
 Dublin City Council: Jean Josey, Shawn Kumagai
 Livermore Mayor: John E. Marchand
 Livermore City Council: Bob Woerner, Trish Munro
 Fremont City Council, District 1: Teresa Keng
 Fremont City Council, District 2: Rick Jones
 Fremont City Council, District 3: Jenny Kassan
 Fremont City Council, District 4: Yang Shao
 Hayward Mayor: Barbara Halliday
 Hayward City Council: Aisha Wahab, Sara Lamnin
 San Leandro Mayor: Pauline Russo Cutter
 San Leandro City Council, District 1: Deborah Cox
 Union City City Council: Emily Duncan, Jamie Patino, Pat D. Gacoscos
 San Ramon Mayor: Bill Clarkson
 San Ramon City Council: David E. "Dave" Hudson, Sabina Zafar
 Danville Town Council: Karen G. Stepper, Robert Storer
 Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit) Director, At-Large: Joel Young

AC Transit District Director, Ward 4: Mark Williams

AC Transit District Director, Ward 5: Diane Shaw

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Director, District 4: Robert Raburn

BART Director, District 6: Liz Ames

Dublin-San Ramon Services District Directors: Ann Marie Johnson, Georgean Vonheeder-Leopold

East Bay Municipal Utility District, Ward 7: Frank Mellon

East Bay Regional Park District Director, Ward 5: Ayn Wieskamp

Eden Township Healthcare District Directors: Mariellen Faria, Roxann V. Lewis, Gordon Galvan

Chabot-Las Positas Community College District (CCD) Trustee, Area 2: Linda Granger

Chabot-Las Positas CCD Trustee, Area 3: Genevieve Randolph

Dublin Unified School District (USD) Governing Board Member, Area 2: Megan Rouse

Dublin USD Governing Board Member, Area 5: Dan Cherrier

Fremont USD Board Members: Dianne Jones, Larry Sweeney

Hayward USD Board Members: April Oquenda, Ken Rawdon

Livermore Valley Joint USD Board Members: Craig Bueno, Anne E. White, Emily Prusso

New Haven USD Governing Board Members: Linda Canlas, Sarabjit Kaur Cheema

RECOGNIZING EILEEN GREB FOR THE 2018 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eileen Greb of Butte, a recipient of the 2018 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for her service to her country and leadership in her community.

Mrs. Greb answered the call to serve in 1968 as a nurse in the United States Navy, where she cared for American servicemen and women at home and abroad. Mrs. Greb left active duty in 1984 but remained in the Individual Ready Reserve program until 1997, finishing her military career with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Mrs. Greb also answered the call to serve her community through numerous civic and veterans organizations in Butte. She serves as Chaplain for Silver Bow American Legion Post 1 and has been an officer in the local and state chapters of the Disabled American Veterans. Mrs. Greb has been a dedicated advocate for the Southwest Montana Veterans Home, which is slated for construction in 2019 after a long campaign to secure funding. On top of all this, she still finds time to assist in giving flu shots and working in her local YMCA's Medical Exercise Program.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Eileen Greb for her dedication and service.

TRIBUTE TO HERBERT "HERB" SPIEGEL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to my good friend Herbert "Herb" Spiegel, who passed away in California on Sunday, December 2, 2018. Herb, a devoted family man, served his nation in World War II, and volunteered with many organizations in his community. He will be deeply missed.

Herb and his family escaped war-torn Germany in May of 1939, immigrating to the United States and settling in New York. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Seabee in Kodiak, Alaska during World War II, and was honorably discharged in 1946. He met Flora Hirsch on a New Year's weekend in 1950 and had a whirlwind courtship, proposing on their first date. After she said yes on the second date, they were married on May 23, 1951. They returned to Kodiak as he continued to work as a civilian electrician with the Navy.

The Spiegels would eventually relocate to Corona, California, where they would raise a family and become active members of the community. Herb founded Corona Industrial Electric, Inc. and has been an active member of the National Electrical Contractors Association. Herb retired in 1994, after receiving numerous awards and recognitions in the electrical contracting industry, and became actively immersed in the local community. Herb had remained active with the Corona Chamber of Commerce; Corona Host Lions; Corona Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks; a member of the Masonic Lodge as a Master Mason, and Shriner; Navy League and an active member and founder of Congregation Beth Shalom of Corona. I have seen firsthand how Herb's tireless passion for his family, community service and giving back has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona. Additionally, Herb was a co-founder and creator of a holocaust education forum to share and preserve the story of his life and other holocaust survivors with young adults in Southern California.

Herb is survived by three sons: Sam, Bobby, and Marc; seven grandchildren: Tanya, Rebecca, Rachel, Isaac, Josh, Jacob and Aaron; great grandson RJ, and many nieces and nephews from around the globe. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the Spiegel family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Herb. Although Herb may be gone, the many contributions he made to his country, community and family will have a lasting impact.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETER OHTAKI

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Peter Ohtaki of Menlo Park who is departing the city council after eight years in service to its residents. In 2010, Peter Ohtaki filed to run

for the council. These were some of the worst years of the Great Recession, and the city's budget was in distress. It would have been easy for Peter to wait for a less challenging time to run, but instead he stepped up to serve his community. He came in first among six candidates for three seats. He was subsequently re-elected in 2014 and has served twice as Mayor.

From 2007 through 2010, Peter was also elected to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District board of directors and served as the President in 2010. Peter served on the Finance Committee and oversaw a balanced \$32 million budget at the district. With Peter's leadership and financial background, the district paid down 78 percent of its \$13 million pension obligation, saving the district millions in interest costs.

The recession of 2010 was a heavy blow to the city's finances, but since that time the recovery of the national economy has brought traffic to a standstill at commute hours. There are no easy or inexpensive choices regarding traffic in a city growing due to global innovation and the physical expansion of this globe's pre-eminent social media company, Facebook. As Peter Ohtaki noted, 80 percent of all traffic in the city neither begins nor ends within its borders.

To improve mobility, he supported an undercrossing at the Ravenswood/El Camino Real intersection so that residents could bypass the wait at Caltrain. He supported housing along the transit corridor and improvements to signs so that traffic would be less likely to cut through the Allied Arts and Belle Haven neighborhoods. He was a strong supporter of the Downtown Specific Plan that will allow the city's businesses and tax base to thrive. Residents may take a short drive downtown instead of going to surrounding communities for services.

During his terms in office, Mayor Ohtaki was also known for his respect for all during public meetings, his commitment to community safety and improved emergency response capacities, his devotion to balanced budgets and prudent reserves, and his willingness to work with the fire protection district to enhance protection for all residents.

Peter grew up in Menlo Park, attending both La Entrada Middle School and Woodside High School. He graduated with a B.A. in Economics, magna cum laude, from Harvard University and an MBA from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. Peter and his wife Julie have three children, Robby, Nicolee and Trey, in Menlo Park public schools. Now that he is leaving public life, he may spend more time with his family. We deeply appreciate their dedication to public life and are grateful that they allowed Peter to serve despite the sacrifices in time that every family endures when someone serves in public office.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Menlo Park are highly educated, passionate about their beliefs, and deeply engaged in national and local public affairs. Peter is a stellar example of that. He may look back at where he started—with the budget in tatters and basic services in retreat—and relish that he helped guide Menlo Park through recovery and into prosperity. I wish him well in his next adventure during the years ahead.